



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office  
P.O. Box 45155  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155  
<http://www.blm.gov>



IN REPLY REFER TO:

3484

SL-066145

(UT-923)

MAY 09 2006

Utah Coal Program  
Ms. Pamela Grubaugh-Littig  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Street, Suite 1210  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

*Incoming*  
*C/007/0013*

Re: Lila Canyon Portals, Federal Coal Lease SL-066145

Dear Ms. Littig:

As per 43 CFR 3484.2 we are to inform you of the adequacy of the closure of the Lila Canyon portals on Federal Coal Lease SL-066145 for permanent abandonment and Phase III bond release. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was accompanied by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) and Utah American Energy (lessee) on a field trip to look at the Lila Canyon portals on May 2, 2006 at the request of the DOGM for the Phase III bond release.

While on the inspection, BLM noted that the two Lila Canyon portals are open from the surface back to the concrete block seals. The fan portal is concrete lined for 25 feet. There are approximately two feet of coal in the roof from the concrete tunnel liner to the block seal. The roof of the entry from the portal liner to the seal is supported with bolts run through horizontal wooden crossbars. The block seal is approximately 80 feet inside the opening. There was a small decrease in the oxygen levels around the seal. The intake portal is partially caved. This seal is approximately 50 feet in by the opening and it is not lined with concrete. The roof in this entry has also been supported by roof bolts through wooden crossbars. Both entries show roof coal spalling.

BLM reviewed the situation after the site inspection and confirmed that the portals are on an existing Federal Coal lease SL-066145. The federal lease requires that all regulations under 43 CFR 3400 be met. Because Phase III bond release is for permanent abandonment of mines, the regulations at 43 CFR 3484.2 must be adhered to. BLM requires that in order to provide for permanent abandonment, to adequately protect the coal resource, and ensure public health and safety, the portals in Lila Canyon must be back filled prior to Phase III bond release. If the lessee would like to propose another equivalent type of closure, BLM will need to review and approve the closure method.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Stan Perkes of my staff at 801-539-4036.

RECEIVED

MAY 12 2006

*James F. Kohler*  
James F. Kohler  
Chief, Solid Minerals Branch

Cc: PFO

Lila Canyon Mine File

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING